

**Berkley Tree Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 24, 2022**

Present: S. Young, K. Karlis, S. Bard, M. Grassa, B. Lathrop, T. Losey, H. Tylenda, L Fritsch

Absent: D. Hennen, L. Price, M. Leneway

Additional visitors: Dan Mihaescu

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes –Sept. 26, 2022 meeting minutes approved.

Review and Approval of Agenda – Kathy presented the agenda and Holly Tylenda asked if we could discuss planting more private trees. Kathy said that this topic will likely take a lot of discussion and plans to add this topic to the January meeting agenda. The agenda was then approved as proposed.

Public Comments- none

Update from DPW:

- **Fall Street Tree Planting** – Shawn reported that 180 trees have been ordered and planting is ongoing. Residents can be contacted by email when a tree is available for planting.
- **Status for Tree Preservation for Kenmore/Cornwall street project** – Construction is almost finished on the roadway and has had minimal effect on the trees.

Approval for Tree Care Welcome Packet Updates –

- **Tree Care Instruction** - Steve Bard presented tree care instructions for recipients of newly planted trees to aid in the health and longevity of the trees. Changes were discussed and agreed to and the instructions were approved.

Beautification Advisory Committee/Door Hanger for Trees - Dan Mihaescu presented the “Welcome

- New Tree” door hangar. Changes were discussed and agreed to and the door hanger was approved.
- There was also some discussion around how to ensure trees planted in parks/boulevards get watered regularly. There may need to be different mechanisms to move water to these trees and volunteers may be needed to help the DPW keeps these trees watered – this topic will be pursued further in a future meeting.

Approval to Publish Urban Tree Canopy Study (Condensed) – Kathy said that Dennis Hennen is going to request that the Tree Canopy Study be reviewed with the City Council. Kathy Karlis has condensed the Urban Tree Study to share the essential findings. Kathy Karlis asked for approval from the Tree Board to use this version for that report out and also to have published on the City’s Tree Board website.

After reviewing this condensed version of the Urban Tree Canopy Study, the Tree Board recommended that Kathy add information to her presentation. One to explain the objective of the UTC study and another to point out the use of no cost online public tools instead of using the funds earmarked in the Budget. It was agreed that the presentation should include the recommendation that Berkley adopt a minimum 40% tree canopy goal for all neighborhoods. With these changes, the Tree Board approved the presentation to go to the City Council. Several members also agreed to come to the City Council meeting when this topic is scheduled to provide support.

Regarding the UTC, the purpose is to assess the City's Tree Canopy and help set priorities by section. In other words, to prioritize tree planting efforts in the areas with the lowest tree canopy coverage. Steve Bard also recommended prioritizing the planting of trees in public areas throughout the City. His suggestion was to prioritize areas by use, traffic and enjoyment; with a higher priority to higher use/enjoyment areas such as entrances, parks and other high traffic/use areas.

Stocking Level Survey: Bob Lathrop presented a sample of a stocking level survey. An analytical approach rather than a subjective approach was considered to learn a block's stocking level, set a stocking level goal, and prioritize where and what to plant.

Holiday Lights Parade: This year's Holiday Lights Parade is planned for Saturday December 3. Last year only Bob Penkala, Bob Lathrop and Kathy Karlis participated. Kathy asked that more members of the Tree Board participate this year. Family/friends are welcome to accompany participating Tree Board members. Additionally, it was discussed if there are any suggestions on how the Tree Board might make our attendance more interesting for the parade observer. Kathy is going to pull a mini float lighted tree in the parade this year. Some members of the Tree Board indicated that they may participate this year. Kathy will confirm participation at the November Tree Board Meeting.

Other Topics not on the agenda – considered discussing private trees in January

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Public Safety Building.